



NEWS RELEASE

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FATAL MOTOR VEHICLE COLLISION 5000 BLOCK EAST GOLF LINKS ROAD

At approximately 9:27 p.m. on May 27, 2013, the Tucson Police Department was notified of a motor vehicle collision that had occurred in the 5000 block of East Golf Links Road. Officers from Operations Division Midtown responded to the area where the collision occurred. Upon arrival, they located two vehicles that had collided in the roadway. The driver and passengers from one of the vehicles and the driver and passenger from the second vehicle were all suffering from serious injuries. Emergency medical personnel from the Tucson Fire Department responded and ultimately transported both drivers and the passengers from each of the vehicles to a local hospital for further medical evaluation and treatment. All were deemed to have serious injuries. Unfortunately, one of the passengers, later identified as 17-year old Jeremy Echeandia, succumbed to his injuries while at the hospital. Mr. Echeandia had been the front seat passenger of the Saturn. It is unknown if he had been wearing his seatbelt. He was pronounced deceased on the afternoon of June 16, 2013. Next of kin have been notified.

Detectives from the Traffic Investigations Unit responded to the scene on the night of the incident to further the investigation. They examined and collected roadway evidence at the scene. They also conducted interviews with various witnesses. The detectives learned that a 2003 4-door Saturn sedan was traveling westbound in the center lane of East Golf Links Road. A 1997 Dodge, half-ton truck was traveling eastbound on East Golf Links Road in the inside or median traffic lane. The Saturn began to make a lane change into the inside or median westbound traffic lane at the same time that another westbound vehicle moved into the lane. The driver of the Saturn overcorrected and lost control. The Saturn crossed the median and collided with the Dodge truck nearly head-on. Both drivers and all passengers were transported to UMC with serious injuries. No citations have been issued regarding this incident at this time. It has not yet been determined if drugs or alcohol were a factor in the collision.

Fatalities year to date:

For 2012 - 17

2 Pedestrian
1 Bicycle
3 Motorcycle

For 2013 - 17

6 Pedestrian
0 Bicycle
3 Motorcycle

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